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9 Nov. 49

The Honorable Watson B. Miller
Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Commissioner:

As I indicated in a previous letter, the Agency was undertaking a study to determine what information or service we could provide in reply to the request made in your letter of 30 September 1949. You stated that, in adjusting the immigration status of aliens under the Displaced Persons Act of 1948, you had encountered the difficulty of assessing the validity of claims of oppression or persecution made by such persons in relation to the country from which they were displaced. You asked if we could provide background information on religious or political oppression in the countries of Europe, North Africa, and Asia Minor.

A member of my staff has discussed the matter with Mr. Augustine, whom you designated as your representative, and explained the somewhat limited nature and extent of the information of this type which is available to us. I can readily appreciate the basis of your needs, and would like to say that we can be of possibly greater assistance in those situations where a specific individual is concerned and biographical facts can be provided. In such cases, the Department of the Army has indicated that their services will also be available.

I believe that Mr. Augustine has an accurate understanding of our situation, and we shall be very pleased to give him our continued cooperation and to furnish whatever information we can provide in answer to any further requests he may make.

Sincerely,

151-UIAER 11/9/49
R. H. Hillenkoetter
Rear Admiral, USN

Director of Central Intelligence

OGC Has Reviewed
cc: Chrono File
Subject File
Signer's Copy
Return to OGC dated w/ base & ER 0-7110

Central Records w/ cy base & ER 0-7110